



ZFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 6675**
Shirou SAWA : Attorney Docket No. 2003_1023
Serial No. 10/624,674 : Group Art Unit 1624
Filed July 23, 2003 : Examiner Paul V. Ward
METHOD FOR STABILIZING : **Mail Stop: Amendment**
ARYLCARBOXYLIC ACID, STABILIZER
THEREOF AND AQUEOUS SOLUTION
CONTAINING STABILIZED ARYLCARBOXYLIC
ACID

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFERRED
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

This is responsive to the Official Action dated September 29, 2006.

The Official Action constitutes a requirement for an election of species of claims 1-23.

However, claims 1-23 have been cancelled without prejudice and claims 24-27 have been added, based upon the Preliminary Amendment filed on July 23, 2003, a copy of which is enclosed.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirou SAWA

By: Warren M. Cheek, Jr.
Warren M. Cheek, Jr.
Registration No. 33,367
Attorney for Applicant

WMC/dlk
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
October 11, 2006



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Shirou SAWA

Serial No. NEW

: Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Filed July 23, 2003

: Attorney Docket No. 2003_1023

METHOD FOR STABILIZING ARYLCARBOXYLIC
ACID, STABILIZER THEREOF AND AQUEOUS
SOLUTION CONTAINING STABILIZED
ARYLCARBOXYLIC ACID

(Rule 1.53(b) Continuation of Serial No. 09/885,096,
Filed June 21, 2001)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as
follows:

COPY

Amendments to the Specification

Page 1, immediately after the title, please insert:

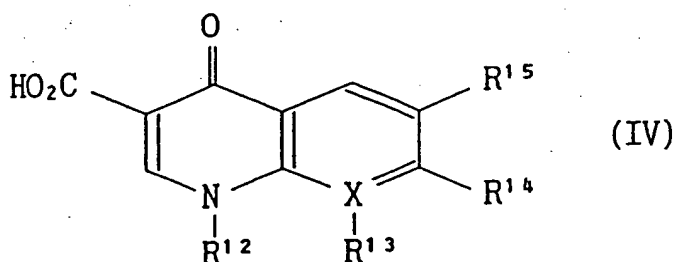
This application is a continuation of Serial No. 09/885,096 filed June 21, 2001, which is a divisional of Serial No. 09/017,626 filed February 2, 1998, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,274,592.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) A method for stabilizing an arylcarboxylic acid or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof in an aqueous solution, which comprises adding a pyridonecarboxylic acid selected from

(a) a pyridonecarboxylic acid of the formula (IV):



wherein

X is a carbon atom or a nitrogen atom; and
R¹², R¹³, R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ are the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom, a halogen, a carboxyl group, an optionally substituted lower alkyl group, an optionally substituted cycloalkyl group, an optionally substituted acyl group, an optionally substituted aryl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group;

wherein R¹² and R¹³ optionally form a 4- to 6-membered heterocyclic group with the adjacent nitrogen atom and X, and R¹⁴ and R¹⁵ optionally form a 4- to 6-membered heterocyclic group with the adjacent carbon atom, provided that when X is a nitrogen atom, R¹³ is void,

(b) cinoxacin or

(c) sparfloxacin,

or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof,

to an arylcarboxylic acid of the formula (I):



wherein

L^1 is an optionally substituted aryl group having not more than 14 carbon atoms; and

R^1 is an optionally substituted alkyl group having not more than 4 carbon atoms or a single bond,

or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the pyridonecarboxylic acid is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of lomefloxacin, norfloxacin, ofloxacin, enoxacin, ciprofloxacin, tosufloxacin, fleroxacin and levofloxacin.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the arylcarboxylic acid is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of ibuprofen, diclofenac, 2-naphthoic acid, 2-naphthylacetic acid, bromfenac, salicylic acid, aspirin, flufenisal, ibufenac, alclofenac, flurbiprofen, ketoprofen, naproxen and mefenamic acid.

27. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the pyridonecarboxylic acid is added in a proportion of 0.001-5 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the arylcarboxylic acid.

REMARKS

The present application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/885,096, which is abandoned without prejudice without payment of the issue fee or publication fee.

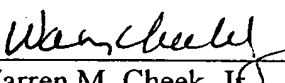
In the present application claims 1-23 are cancelled without prejudice and new claims 24-27 have been added corresponding to the allowed claims of the parent application.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirou SAWA

By


Warren M. Cheek, Jr.
Registration No. 33,367
Attorney for Applicant

WMC/dlk
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
July 23, 2003